Design Resource

# Pearl Bangles - Goa

Beads Creation
by
Prof. Bibhudutta Baral and Srikanth B.
NID, Bengaluru

**Source:**
https://dsource.in/resource/pearl-bangles-goa

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
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## Introduction

Pearls are an important part of tradition and culture. It is regarded as one of nature's most brilliant creations. Thus for ages, women are purchasing pearls for their dynamic and evergreen beauty. These pearls are categorized into two groups, such as real pearls and cultured. Both are distinguished as per their shapes. Nonetheless, these pearls are pierced into any other object, either horizontally or vertically. Using pearls, different types of jewelry are made, such as bangles, rings, bracelets, chokers, earrings, and Kundan sets. Pearls of several types that vary in sizes, styles, and colours are also used for making jewels. People also buy pearls for gifting someone or for any ceremonies. One can get these pearls at different prices. The higher quality pearls are usually priced high compared to the customized ones. Pearls are generally weighed in grams that also decide the cost of the pearls. It is the luster and size of the pearl that suggests its quality. When the pearl has a deeper glow, it is considered the best quality and bought by the buyer at the best affordable rates. Even the luster of the pearl also suggests its price. Before buying the pearls, it is essential to consider a few points like luster, weight, surface, colour, size, and shape. All these factors help the customer in buying a reliable product. Likewise, there are three types of pearls such as natural, cultured, and imitation. All these pearls differ in one or the other way and are unique in their own manner. Thus women like pearls, and men usually gift their companion pearls that signify the feeling of love and warmth. Pearls are either found or cultivated in salt water or fresh water. There are several types of pearls that are originated from different mollusk. China produces cultured freshwater pearls, and due to their abundance, they are more affordable than cultured saltwater pearls. Saltwater pearls include Akoya pearls and Tahitian pearls that originate from Tahiti and other islands in French Polynesia. South sea pearls hail from Indonesia, Australia, and the Philippines. The largest of all pearl varieties comes in white, cream, or golden colour. They vary in sizes ranging from 9mm to 20mm. A Tahitian pearl is also known as a black pearl through its colour spectrum includes grey, green, purple and blue. Subsequently, 17th-century coloured pearls are used by both men and women. In recent years these dark wonders of the sea have seen a revival with a new generation of fashion-conscious pearls as an alternative to the traditional white pearl necklace. There are also non-symmetrical pearls that are termed as "baroque". These irregularly shaped pearls are more common in freshwater. But the perfectly round-shaped pearls are the ones that are often used in contemporary jewelry for their great effect and uniqueness.

Usually, the oysters in saltwater produce pearls, but some other gems formed by molluscs also qualify for this mark. They include oval-shaped rare conch pearls and orangey-yellow Melo Melo pearls. This unique pearl is formed by a substance composed mostly of calcite, and while they lack the iridescence of nacreous pearls, their beauty is no less spectacular. Conch pearls ranging in colour from yellow to coral red with soft pink is the most popular. These pearls cannot be cultivated and are only found in one in every ten thousand Queen Conch mollusks. Thus they are the rarest in the world as they cannot be cultured and are found by chance in rocky, coastal waters. Now a day's pearl is everyone's favourite as it is in favor of fashionable sets. Most of the top jewelry houses prominently feature pearls in their jewelry collections. They are also incorporated with contemporary jewelry

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designs by innovative designers as Kova. Traditionally pearls were renowned for their uniformity in colour and size, but now it is more Avant-grade. Pearls of vibrant colours and unusual shapes are used in unique jewels by renowned jewellers by their creativity. From intense black pearls with iridescent shimmer to perfectly imperfect baroque pearls, all these pearls as miracles of the sea have become a must-have gem in the 21st century.

Goa is a state in western India with coastlines stretching along the Arabian Sea.

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Artisan Ms. Shilpa engaged in pearls bangle making.

The different kinds of jewelry made with artificial pearls.

Customized plain metal bangle.

A set of multi-coloured bead bangle.

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Beautiful bridal pearl bangle set designed by Ms. Shilpa.

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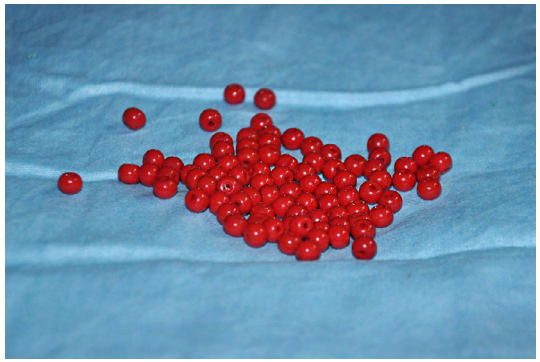
## Tools and Raw Materials

Tools and raw materials that are used for making pearl bangles are:

- **Pearls/Beads:** They are the main materials that are used for making bangles.
- **Bangle Base/Mold:** It is used as a base for the pearl beads on which it is arranged as the bangle.
- **Needle:** The pearl beads are added to the thread using a needle.
- **Cotton/Nylon Thread:** Through the thread the beads are stitched to the bangle base.
- **Scissor:** It is used for cutting off the excess thread.
- **Incense Stick:** Incense stick is used to burn the ends of the thread.
- **Glue:** Glue is used for sticking the ends of the thread together to the bangle base.
- **Nail Polish:** It is used to give a shining effect on the bangle base.
- **Decorative Accessories:** These are used in-between the pearl beads to enhance the beauty of the bangles.



The red colour beads of 8.5 mm are used for decorative purposes.

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The black colour cotton thread used for tying objectives.

Hand sewing needle used for weaving purposes.

The adhesive used for sticking while making decorative bangles.

Transparent nail polish used for the shining purpose.

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Kitchen scissor used for cutting purposes.

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## Making Process

The required bangle base is selected, and the number of pearl beads needed is chosen. The thread is cut as per the length preferred. A little longer than necessary is cut. A knot is made using both ends of the thread. Further, the desired coloured beads are inserted in the thread one by one. This thread is then inserted into one of the holes in the bangle base/mold, and the thread is brought out through the second next hole. Again the beads are inserted into the thread and are inserted in the hole, and tightened. The process is repeated to complete the whole bangle. Once the beads are wholly threaded to the bangle base, the thread is taken inwards of the bangle and tightly knotted together. The excess thread is cut off. Then by using the incense stick, the ends of the knots are heated by its foam. Upon that is the glue applied to make them stick together and hard. As the final finishing, transparent nail polish is applied on the bangle base and other decorative accessories (that are golden in colour) used for the bangle. As this gets dried up soon, thus the bangles get ready to be sold or worn instantly!

Ready-made plain stone studded bangle.

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Before beginning, the pearl weaving artisan tie the thread to the bangle.

Artisan uses nylon beading thread for pearl/bead weaving.

Artisan starts weaving the red colour beads using a needle.

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Beads are counted while weaving to make classy design bangles.

Artisan uses artificial decorative items while weaving for an elegant look.

The half-beaded bangle is at the middle stage.

Artisan Ms. Shilpa is involved in the pearl bangle making process.

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Artisan Ms. Shilpa gives attention while making pearl bangles.

For fixing the beads to the bangle, the artisan puts several knots using nylon thread.

Artisan heats the edge of nylon thread using incense stick for making extra thread invisible.

She is applying the adhesive on nylon thread to stick with the bangle.

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At the end of process, artisan applying transparent nail polish for giving a glossy look.

A finished set of charmed beaded bangle.

A set of black and red beaded bangles.

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## Products

The pearl beads bangles are available in various sizes. They are very attractive and are a sensitive accessory that has to be handled with care. These are available in multiple colours that can be matched to an individual's attire. Bangles made of different sized pearl beads and with stones attract the eyes of the buyer. A pair of bangle ranges from INR.100 to INR.300. These bangles suit all kinds of traditional events.

Beautiful red ceramic bead bangles.

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Red bead bangles of 2.5 size.

Fancy pearl bangle sets.

Magnificent pair of traditional black pearl bangles.

A couple of black pearl beaded bangle.

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Black bead bangles of 2.5 size.

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## Video

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## Contact Details

This documentation was done by Professor Bibhudutta Baral and Srikanth B. at NID, Bengaluru.

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